Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that the word 'lady' sounds better than the word 'woman' and is more respectable?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith :—" A lady remains a lady whatever her official designation may be."

Mr. M. S. Sreshta :—" May I know whether the sex of the officer can be entirely omitted?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith :—" It is necessary to retain it for administrative convenience."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" Will the Government reconsider the question of restoring the lady to her sex?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith :—" As there is no category of 'gentlemen assistant surgeons,' it is not necessary to have one of 'lady assistant surgeons'."

Mr. M. S. Sreshta :—" Is not the word 'lady' retained in the designation of officers in some departments of Government?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith :—" I think that in the Educational Department also they are called 'women'."

Mr. M. S. Sreshta :—" Are they called 'ladies' or 'women'?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith :—" They are called 'women'."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know whether the term 'man' precedes the designation of a male officer?"

Mr. E. Conran Smith :—" Yes; there is a 'men's branch' in some of the services."

Change of designation of 'Lady Apothecary' and 'Lady Assistant Surgeon.'

* 513 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the designations 'Lady Apothecary' and 'Lady Assistant Surgeon' have been changed into 'woman apothecary' and 'woman assistant surgeon'; if so, the reasons for this change; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the diploma obtained by lady apothecaries is styled as 'Lady Apothecary' examination?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 512.

(*b*) No.

Countersignature of medical certificates issued to non-gazetted Government servants.

* 514 *Q.*—B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have issued any order directing the discontinuance of the practice under which medical certificates granted to a non-gazetted Government servant in superior service by a registered medical practitioner, recommending the grant of leave or extension of leave, were sent to District Medical Officers for countersignature;

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(*b*) whether, instead, the Government have permitted the authority competent to grant the leave in such cases to accept the said medical certificate or to secure a second medical opinion by sending the applicant for medical examination; and

(*c*) whether any representation was received on the subject; and, if so, when and with what result?

A.—(*a*) Yes.
(*b*) Yes.
(*c*) No.

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government are aware that the registered Medical Practitioner, who gives the certificate, will know more about the case—because he is treating the case—than the District Medical Officer before whom the patient appears for the nonce?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"I am not prepared to answer that question."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Suppose a man is suffering from pneumonia; the Registered Medical Practitioner says that he is suffering from that disease and that he requires so many months' leave. If the man is asked to go to the District Surgeon after the expiry of fifteen days or one month, the patient might have been completely cured and the District Surgeon may say that he is quite all right?"

Mr. E. CONRAN SMITH:—"Given the premises, the hon. Member is perfectly right."

Fee concessions to students in the Medical College, Vizagapatam.

* 515 *Q.*—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many students from the Medical College, Vizagapatam, applied for half-fee concession during 1931, 1932 and 1933, and how many of such applications were granted and how many were rejected; and

(*b*) what the reasons were for the rejection of the applications?

A.—(*a*)—

	1931.	1932.	1933.
Number of students who applied for half-fee concession	7	Nil.	5
Number of students who were granted half-fee concession ..	3	Nil.	Nil.
Number of applications which were rejected	4	Nil.	5

(*b*) Rule 92 of the Madras Educational Rules which governs the grant of half-fee concession gives discretion to the Principal of the College to grant the concession to students whose parents or guardians are so poor that the grant of the concession is necessary. The Principal of the College exercised his discretion and rejected four applications during 1931.